

Introduced by Senator WylandFebruary 23, 2009

An act to amend Section 51225.3 of the Education Code, relating to education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 223, as introduced, Wyland. Education: economics: financial literacy.

Existing law provides that no pupil shall receive a diploma of graduation from high school who, while in grades 9 to 12, inclusive, has not completed a one-semester course in economics.

This bill would require $\frac{1}{2}$ of that course to focus on personal finance and financial literacy. Because this bill would require schools to provide a higher level of service, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 51225.3 of the Education Code is
2 amended to read:

1 51225.3. (a) Commencing with the 1988–89 school year, no
2 pupil shall receive a diploma of graduation from high school who,
3 while in grades 9 to 12, inclusive, has not completed all of the
4 following:

5 (1) At least the following numbers of courses in the subjects
6 specified, each course having a duration of one year, unless
7 otherwise specified.

8 (A) Three courses in English.

9 (B) Two courses in mathematics.

10 (C) Two courses in science, including biological and physical
11 sciences.

12 (D) Three courses in social studies, including United States
13 history and geography; world history, culture, and geography; a
14 one-semester course in American government and civics, and a
15 one-semester course in economics, *one-half of which shall focus*
16 *on personal finance and financial literacy*.

17 (E) One course in visual or performing arts or foreign language.
18 For the purposes of satisfying the requirement specified in this
19 subparagraph, a course in American Sign Language shall be
20 deemed a course in foreign language.

21 (F) Two courses in physical education, unless the pupil has been
22 exempted pursuant to the provisions of this code.

23 (2) Other coursework as the governing board of the school
24 district may by rule specify.

25 (b) The governing board, with the active involvement of parents,
26 administrators, teachers, and pupils, shall adopt alternative means
27 for pupils to complete the prescribed course of study which may
28 include practical demonstration of skills and competencies,
29 supervised work experience or other outside school experience,
30 career technical education classes offered in high schools, courses
31 offered by regional occupational centers or programs,
32 interdisciplinary study, independent study, and credit earned at a
33 postsecondary institution. Requirements for graduation and
34 specified alternative modes for completing the prescribed course
35 of study shall be made available to pupils, parents, and the public.

36 SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
37 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
38 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made

1 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
2 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

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